

To my state representatives and senators,

Each year, thousands of students in Massachusetts graduate from high school without the prospect of a college education because of their immigration status. Although these hardworking students and their families have been part of our state's social and economic fabric for decades, they are forced to pay out-of-state tuition rates (up to three or even four times the in-state tuition rate) and are barred from receiving state financial aid assistance. *At least 18 states- including Texas, Florida, Utah and New Mexico- have already passed in-state tuition legislation and five states offer students access to state financial aid, with overwhelming public support and bipartisan collaboration.* In 2015, Massachusetts should be counted in that number.

With Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parent Accountability (DAPA), President Barack Obama's sweeping administrative relief programs, approximately 65,000 undocumented immigrant youth and their families will finally be able to work legally and fully participate in our state's economy and growth. The legislature has a unique and historic opportunity to contribute to that success by opening viable pathways to a college education for ready, eager and talented immigrant youth. With college degrees and technical training under their belts, we can ensure that our state maintain its distinctive economic edge and fulfill our country's founding promise of opportunity and equity.

I support Education Equity for undocumented students because....

It is important to me that you:

1. If a member of House or Senate leadership or the Joint Committee on Higher Education, prioritize SIM's Education Equity legislation (H.D. 1061, S.D. 654), which will allow DREAMers to pay the same tuition rates as their peers and to compete for state financial aid, or report it favorably out of the committee, respectively;
2. If not, **vocally** show your support for the legislation to House or Senate leadership, as well as the members of the Joint Committee on Higher Education, so that the legislation is prioritized and reported favorably out of committee and moves to a floor vote.

Printed name: _____ Relationship to UMB: _____

Signature: _____ Date of signature: _____

Phone number _____ E-mail _____

Zipcode (residence): _____